AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 of the specification as follows:

The present invention has been worked out under these circumstances. The modern technique for the production of thin film was used to coat a collector substrate with a thin film of electrically-conductive ceramic having a high adhesivity and hence provide the collector with an improved corrosion resistance. In this manner, the use of an electrolyte having a high specific gravity is made possible while suppressing the rise of the weight of the collector, resulting in the enhancement of the percentage utilization of the active material and hence making it possible to realize a storage battery having a prolonged life and a high energy density. Further, by providing an active material on the surface of the current collector, adding a prescribed pressure in the direction perpendicular to the current collector plane, maintaining electrical contact, making the outer plane of the outermost collector ~~free of acting material~~ a part of the storage battery outer case, and providing the structure having all the functions of the current collector, the battery outer case, and the connecting terminal, strap or pole of the storage battery can be omitted. The outer plane of the outermost collector is free of active material. Accordingly, an inexpensive high performance storage battery having a high reliability which requires no additional weight and cost of strap or pole, undergoes no abnormal corrosion and can be produced in a simple manner and a process for the production of such a storage battery can be provided.

Please amend the paragraph on page 21, of the specification as follows:

[Example 2]

The surface of a positive collector obtained by sputtering SnO_2 onto a Pb sheet having a thickness of 0.5 mm to a thickness of 10 μm was coated with a positive electrode paste for lead acid battery. A negative electrode was prepared by applying a negative electrode paste to an ordinary Pb sheet. The positive electrode and the

negative electrode were combined with a glass mat separator for retainer type valve regulated lead acid battery provided interposed therebetween at various pressures. Using an ordinary method, sulfuric acid as an electrolyte was injected into the combination which was then energized (formed) to assemble a battery as shown in Table 1. Thus, a valve regulated lead acid battery having a capacity of about 0.25 Ah was prepared. In this battery, the surface of the both collectors free of active material forms a part of the battery outer case and also acts as a terminal from which current is drawn as shown in Fig. ~~7~~ 8. For comparison, a conventional valve regulated lead acid battery using a Pb sheet free of SnO_2 layer was prepared and subjected to test.